



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Department of Public Works**

Date: February 15, 2011

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: **Grant Application to Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission for Flood Area 5 37th Avenue North Greenway**

Recommendation:

- a) Authorize proper city officials to submit an application for \$250,000 funding from the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission;
- b) Authorize proper city officials to negotiate and execute an agreement with Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission, terms of which will include that the City is to design, award and administer construction of the project, that the project will be constructed on land owned or easements held by the City, that the City will have ownership of the improvements and will maintain them in good operating condition in perpetuity or until they are replaced, and the City will defend, indemnify, protect and hold harmless the Commission and its agents, officers, and employees, from any claims arising out of the design, construction, or maintenance of the project, including environmental claims.
- c) Increase the appropriation for Flood Area 5 infrastructure work (073009010932-SW 030 Proj. CSW030STFL05) by \$250,000 and increase revenue (07300 9010932 - Source 3225) by \$250,000 for 2011 funding by the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission.

Previous Directives:

July 31, 2009 Authorize proper city officers to submit an application for Clean Water Revolving Funds administered by the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority in cooperation with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Prepared by: Lois Eberhart, Water Resources Administrator, Surface Water & Sewers 673-3260
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Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P. E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Lois Eberhart, Water Resources Administrator, Surface Water & Sewers

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Not applicable
Civil Rights Approval	Not applicable
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Not applicable

Financial Impact

- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Request provided to the Finance Department

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: The Folwell neighborhood is aware of the project and its timeline.
 City Goals: A Safe Place To Call Home -- quality of life; a healthy environment; the city's infrastructure will be well-maintained. Enriched Environment -- plentiful green spaces; lakes, rivers and the soil and air will be clean. A Premier Destination -- the country will see Minneapolis as a national treasure.
 Comprehensive Plan: Consistent
 Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information:

Requested Action

Public Works seeks approval to apply to the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission for \$250,000 for Flood Area 5, to enter into an agreement in order to receive the funds, and to appropriate the funds to the project. The funds are available for components of the Flood Area 5 project that pertain to water quality improvements. This funding source will reimburse the city 25% of eligible expenses, up to a total of \$250,000.

Project Description

This project is located in north Minneapolis, within an area that drains to Crystal Lake in Robbinsdale, thence to Shingle Creek, re-enters Minneapolis and discharges to the Mississippi River. Crystal Lake is impaired for nutrients and a TMDL Study has been approved by the MPCA and the US EPA. The City of Minneapolis is one of the TMDL stakeholders with a responsibility to reduce the pollutant load of nutrients to the lake. A "piped only" solution would not address all of the goals for the project: increase flood protection, make water quality improvements for Crystal Lake, improve community livability, sustainability, and sense of place, and possibly reduce stress downstream on the stormwater system, reducing the risk of overflows.

The entire Flood Area 5 subwatershed within Minneapolis city limits is approximately 415 acres. The current construction project (Phase 1) addresses about a 48-acre portion of the overall subwatershed, bounded roughly by Dowling Avenue North, Humboldt Avenue N, 36th Avenue N, and Queen Avenue N (see Figure 1). A greenway approach with auxiliary underground infrastructure is being constructed, creating not only stormwater storage but also "green" amenities, heightened public awareness about stormwater, and water quality improvements for impaired Crystal Lake. The project will remove the existing roadway along 37th Avenue N and replace it with a pedestrian trail and greenway, underground and surface stormwater detention, filtration rain gardens, and structural stormwater treatment (see Figures 2 and 3).

The additional funding sources for the balance of the project costs are previous appropriations to the city's Stormwater Utility-funded SW030 Alternative Stormwater Management program, and the State of Minnesota Clean Water Revolving Fund Green Project Reserve loan forgiveness feature. Future actions will be brought forward for approval regarding appropriating Green Project Reserve funds and entering into an agreement with the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority related to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program.

Project Cost:	
Flood Area 5 Phases 1a and 1b	\$6,200,000
Project Sources	
Mpls. Stormwater Utility Alternative Stormwater Mgmt. (secured)	\$4,983,800
Minnesota Green Project Reserve (secured)	966,200
Shingle Creek Watershed Management Organization (secured)	<u>250,000</u>
	\$6,200,000

Attachments

- Figure 1: Project area
- Figure 2: Rendering of 37th Avenue N Greenway
- Figure 3: Section View of 37th Avenue N Greenway

CC: Council President Johnson, Ward 4
Mike Abeln, Bill Schroeder and Bishow Dhungana, Finance Department